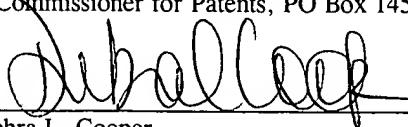


Atty. Docket No. BEN02 P-347

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper, together with all enclosures identified therein, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

2/12/04  
Date

  
Debra L. Cooper

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 3748  
Applicant : John P. Biel et al.  
Appn. No. : 09/889,620  
Filing Date : July 19, 2002  
Confirmation No. : 7130  
For : VACUUM-INSULATED EXHAUST TREATMENT DEVICE WITH PHASE CHANGE MATERIALS AND THERMAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

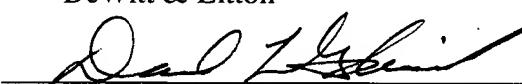
Dear Sir:

A check of our files indicates that the above-identified application has been filed more than eleven (11) months without having received an Office Action. Therefore, please advise us of the status of this application. This request is made to avoid any lack of diligence being attributed to the Applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN P. BIEL ET AL.

By: Price, Heneveld, Cooper,  
DeWitt & Litton

  
Daniel L. Girdwood  
Registration No. 34 827  
695 Kenmoor, S.E.  
Post Office Box 2567  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501  
(616) 949-9610

February 12, 2004

DLG/dlc